

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Cancelled)

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) An air-conditioning unit ~~according to claim 1,~~
having comprising:

- an inlet for drawing in air;
- a heat exchanger for exchanging heat between the air drawn in from said inlet and
a refrigerant;
- a diffuser for discharging the air which has been heat-exchanged by said heat
exchanger;
- an airflow device for blowing the air from said diffuser;
- an enzyme carrier arranged in an internal space through which the air flows and
supporting an allergen deactivation enzyme;
- an enzyme activation device operable to create an atmosphere which activates
said allergen deactivation enzyme supported by said enzyme carrier; and
- an internal air retaining device operable to retain ~~which retains~~ air flow within
said internal space.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) An air-conditioning unit ~~according to claim 2,~~
comprising:

- an inlet for drawing in air;
- a heat exchanger for exchanging heat between the air drawn in from said inlet and
a refrigerant;
- a diffuser for discharging the air which has been heat-exchanged by said heat
exchanger;
- an airflow device for blowing the air from said diffuser;
- an enzyme carrier arranged in an internal space through which the air flows and
supporting an allergen deactivation enzyme;
- an enzyme activation device operable to create an atmosphere which activates
said allergen deactivation enzyme supported by said enzyme carrier; and

an internal air retaining device operable to retain air flow within said internal space;

wherein said internal air retaining device is an open/close device which closes a part or all of openings communicating with said internal space, so as to keep said internal space in a semi-enclosed or fully enclosed condition.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) An air-conditioning unit according to claim 3, wherein ~~said internal space is kept in the enclosed condition, and said airflow device is operable~~ operated to agitate the air which constitutes the an atmosphere which activates ~~for activating said allergen deactivation enzyme in said enclosed internal space when said internal space is kept in the enclosed condition.~~

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) An air-conditioning unit according to claim 1, 2, wherein said enzyme activation device is operable to heat heats and evaporate evaporates condensed water, generated by a the cooling operation of said heat exchanger, by means of a heating operation of said heat exchanger ~~which is performed after said cooling operation.~~

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) An air-conditioning unit according to claim 1, 2, wherein said enzyme activation device comprises a heating device operable to heat heats and evaporate evaporates the condensed water generated by a the cooling operation of said heat exchanger, which is and stored on a drain pan, ~~by means of a heating device.~~

Claim 7 (Original) An air-conditioning unit according to claim 5, wherein after said internal space has been maintained at a high temperature and high humidity by said enzyme activation device, a degradation-prevention operation is performed to remove moisture from said enzyme carrier.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) An air-conditioning unit according to claim 1, 2, wherein prior to activating said allergen deactivation enzyme of said enzyme carrier, an

allergen collection operation is performed which draws in air to said internal space and flows this to pass through said enzyme carrier.

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) An air-conditioning apparatus comprising:
an air-conditioning unit according to claim 2,
a compressor for compressing a refrigerant,
an external heat exchanger for performing heat exchange between the refrigerant compressed by said compressor and air, and
refrigerant piping for connecting between said air-conditioning unit, said compressor, and said external heat exchanger, and circulating refrigerant between said air-conditioning unit, said compressor, and said external heat exchanger.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) An air-conditioning apparatus comprising:
an air-conditioning unit according to claim 3,
a compressor for compressing a refrigerant,
an external heat exchanger for performing heat exchange between the refrigerant compressed by said compressor and air, and
refrigerant piping for connecting between said air-conditioning unit, said compressor, and said external heat exchanger, and circulating refrigerant between said air-conditioning unit, said compressor, and said external heat exchanger.

Claims 12-16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (New) A method for controlling an air-conditioning unit, comprising:
drawing air in from an inlet;
exchanging heat between air drawn in from said inlet a refrigerant using a heat exchanger;
discharging air that has been heat-exchanged using said heat exchanger from a diffuser using an airflow device; and

activating an allergen deactivation enzyme supported by an enzyme carrier in an internal space of the air-conditioning unit by creating an atmosphere in the internal space that is operable to activate the enzyme.

Claim 18 (New) The method of claim 17, further comprising retaining air flow within the internal space using an internal air retaining device.

Claim 19 (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the internal air retaining device is an open/close device operable to close part of or all of openings communicating with the internal space to keep the internal space in a semi-enclosed or fully enclosed condition.

Claim 20 (New) The method of claim 19, wherein said retaining comprises having the internal space enclosed in the semi-enclosed or fully enclosed condition during said activating and operating said airflow device to agitate air of the atmosphere in the internal space that is operable to activate the enzyme.

Claim 21 (New) The method of claim 17, wherein said activating comprises heating and evaporating condensed water, generated by a cooling operation of the heat exchanger, using a heating operation of the heat exchanger performed after the cooling operation.

Claim 22 (New) The method of claim 17, wherein said activating comprises heating and evaporating condensed water, generated by a cooling operation of the heat exchanger and stored on a drain pan, using a heating device.

Claim 23 (New) The method of claim 21, and further comprising, after said activating, to remove moisture from the enzyme carrier in order to prevent degradation thereof.

Claim 24 (New) The method of claim 17, further comprising, before said activating, collecting allergens by drawing air in to the internal space and passing the air through the enzyme carrier.